

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement drawing Page 21/34 includes changes to Figure 37. This drawing page replaces original Figure 37, original drawing sheet 21/34.

Attachment: Replacement Page 21/34

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of Application Serial No. 09/537,025. Upon entry of the above amendments, Claims 45, 49, and 51 will have been amended, Claims 35-44 and 55-66 will have been canceled, and Claims 45-54 will be pending. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and continued examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Response to Claim Objection

Claim 40-42, 50-52, and 64 have been objected to on the basis of various identified informalities.

Applicants have amended the claims to obviate this objection.

Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

Response to Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 35-66 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, "as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention."

Applicants have amended the claims to obviate this rejection.

Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn.

Response to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 35-66 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, “as failing to comply with the written description requirement.”

Applicants have amended the claims to obviate this rejection.

Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, should be withdrawn

Response to Requirement for Replacement Figure 37

Applicants have amended Figure 37, i.e., drawing Page 21/34, to include the legend “PRIOR ART” as required by the Examiner. As noted above, a Replacement Page 21/34 (Figure 37) satisfying the Examiner requirement accompanies the instant Amendment.

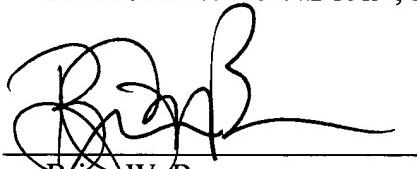
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 45-54 are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

AUTHORIZATIONS:

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for the timely consideration of this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4621.

Respectfully submitted,
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